MIKE MARRIAM



Mike was born in Auburn, NY and grew up in Watertown where he graduated from General Brown High School in 1969. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education in 1973 and his Masters' Degree in Reading Education, both from the State University of New York at Potsdam, in 1977. Mike played one year of freshman basketball at Potsdam and upon graduation, coached a Binghamton women's industrial league fastpitch softball team to two league titles in three years.

After temporary positions in other districts, Mike was hired as a reading teacher in the Seneca Falls School District at the junior high in the fall of

1979. He began his athletic coaching career as a three sport coach, serving as football assistant from 1979-1982, JV wrestling coach from 1979-1983, and taking the boys' head varsity tennis position in the spring of 1980. In the fall of 1998, Mike also became the girls' varsity tennis coach.

Since Mike has been head coach, Mynderse tennis teams have been strong finishers at the league and sectional levels. The boys' teams won Section V, Class CC titles in 2000, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2016. The girls won sectional titles in 2008, 2013, and 2015. Both programs have produced numerous individual singles and doubles sectional champions.

Over his career, Mike has developed the junior varsity and modified tennis programs at Mynderse providing the opportunity for youngsters to learn and enjoy the sport of tennis. Important to the Mynderse program is the "no cut" philosophy by which players can achieve success, regardless of ability, at any level. In 2014, Mike was recognized by the United States Tennis Association (USTA), the governing body of tennis in this country, as one of the top 14 scholastic coaches nationally. Mike was also a finalist for USTA High School Coach of the Year in 2012 and 2013.

Mike and members of the coaching staff have provided other opportunities with the creation of the Mynderse Tennis Camp that takes place every July for young players of any level to learn and enjoy the game free of charge. In 2007, Mike was instrumental in the creation of a winter tennis league at Champions for Life in Auburn for area players with Mynderse as an anchor team. In 2008, a similar league was formed at Pal-Mac High School for summer play. On any given Tuesday, more than 40 scholastic players take to the courts from various high school programs from three Section V leagues.

At the section level, Mike has served on the Section V Tennis Committee and has been the Class C co-chairman since 2004. He is responsible for organizing the Class C Singles and Doubles Tournament in addition to setting up the Class C and CC Team Tournaments. In 2016, Mike was selected to co-chair the Section V State Qualifying Tournament.

Mike passed a significant milestone with his 300th victory with the boys' program in May 2016. He was also selected as the *Democrat and Chronicle* 2016 All Greater Rochester Tennis Coach of the Year.

As reading teacher at the middle and high school, Mike has received various academic honors. He was listed in *Who's Who Among American Teachers* in 2000, 2006, and 2009. He was selected to visit Hungary and Russia as a member of the North American Reading Delegation in October 1993 and was a featured speaker at the New York State Reading Conference in November 1994. He was also chosen by the National Education Association (NEA) as a contributor to nationwide school improvement efforts and participated in two video-taped panel discussions. He authored a chapter in the NEA publication *School Based Change*.

Outside of tennis, Mike served as a Section V varsity soccer official from 1982-1997 and continues to operate the shot clock at Romulus basketball games.